

DESIRE TO BE LEFT ALONE

Li Hung Chang Urges the Evacuation of Province of Pe Chi Li.

FOREIGN TROOPS A MENACE TO PEACE

Compliments Americans on Their Good Judgment—Sarcasm at General Count von Waldersee.

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—A dispatch to the Herald from Peking says: Viceroy Li Hung Chang, in an interview today, said:

"We are indeed grateful to the American government for the gradual evacuation of Pe Chi Li. The quicker it is done the better. It will save the situation, which has been growing worse."

"We have conformed to the demands of the powers so far as we can. Now we need assistance in the execution of details."

"I know Pe Chi Li province. I governed it for twenty years, and have, therefore, the right to be listened to when I say that, after considering all the circumstances, evacuation is advisable—indeed, necessary."

"Should the American proposition be received with favor, the task now taxing our strength becomes easy."

"Those, both at home and abroad, who openly and secretly oppose a peaceful settlement, will be regarded as enemies. The troops leave the dream of peace will become a reality."

"These armed expeditions are a great menace. I never breathe freely while one is out. If the soldiers simply lived on the people, they would be a terrible tax on their exhausted resources; but that is not all. Reports reach me continually from magistrates and from Chinese and foreigners in whom I have equal confidence, which I cannot communicate even to the general."

"The gradual evacuation, which the American government so opportunely proposes, is the solution of all our troubles. When it begins the commercial and industrial revival will begin."

"China Acts in Good Faith."

"There is not the slightest design on the part of China to do less than we have agreed to do, but ask the powers not to insist on the impossible, but to help in consideration of our intelligent appreciation of the situation to execute the demands to which, in order to avoid war, we have to accede."

"There is not one word of truth in the story that Chinese troops are pouring into the province of Pe Chi Li. There is not a single soldier within the district mapped out by Marshall von Waldersee as being under foreign jurisdiction. Outside these limits we are collecting a few hundred soldiers to take over police duties when the foreigners leave. This is all."

"The questions of punishment of the non-importation of arms, and of the indemnities, must be developed from the preliminary treaties, not only with consideration of what is wanted, but with comprehension as to what China can do."

"When the court will return to Peking I can discuss the matter in some detail at present we are a little people. Ministers come to me every day asking when the emperor will return. I cannot answer. Would that not be rude, as long as Count von Waldersee, our illustrious guest, is occupying the palace? Can we say when we would like him to leave?"

"In conclusion, the viceroy, who, despite his recent illness, is looking well and active, said:

"There is no truth in the London report of the conclusion of a Russo-Chinese convention regarding Manchuria."

NOT DEMANDING DEATH OF ALL

State Department Contradicts Report of Congress Insisting on Wholesale Execution.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—The most recent advice received by the State department from its agents in China indicates that the negotiations among the ministers there are proceeding slowly, but they do not by any means discourage the hope of ultimate agreement.

In view of recent publications touching the insistence of the ministers at Peking upon the imposition of the death penalty upon the Chinese concerned in the Boxer uprising, this statement is made by authority:

"The reports which come from Peking representing Mr. Conger as demanding the imposition of the death penalty on all the princes and generals mentioned in the dispatches are untrue."

HANDSOME ELK WAS A TERROR

Indian Recently Killed by Police Lived in Fortified House and Was a Fighter.

SIoux FALLS, S. D., Jan. 26.—(Special.)—The killing on the Lower Brule Indian reservation a few days ago of Handsome Elk by a party of Indian policemen closes the career of an Indian desperado who stood second only to the famous "Apache Kid." The history of the man is not noted here, but it is said that he was a noted desperado who had been in the federal and state prisons and kept the frontier in a turmoil of excitement.

For nearly two decades Handsome Elk held undisputed sway over the region. He caused the United States authorities and United States Indian agents endless trouble and annoyance. He was the best shot with Winchester or six-shooter of his tribe and, being absolutely without fear, was a woman warden of any Indian reservation. He lived on Medicine creek, about fifteen miles from Lower Brule agency, near the border of the reservation. His home was virtually a fortress so far as defensive purposes were concerned.

Injured Millionaire Goes to Coast. CHEYENNE, Wyo., Jan. 26.—(Special.)—Artemus Lamb, the millionaire lumber merchant of Clinton, Mo., who was injured in a wreck near Hilliard, Wyo., a week ago, was yesterday taken from the State hospital at Rock Springs and in company with his wife, niece and two young sons will go to Los Angeles. Mr. Lamb was more seriously injured than was any one of the "77."

"77"

Husband "Seventy-Seven," breaks up the Grip, while its tonic sustains the flagging energies during and after the attack.

"SEVENTY-SEVEN" is a National Remedy, having a large sale in every State. During the present epidemic of Grip and Cold the demand is so large that while we run our factory day and night, we are never quite able to fill all the orders received. Hence we advise you to husband your supply of "77" for your own safety.

At all Drug Stores, 25c., or mailed. Humphreys' Homeopathic Medicine Co., Cor. William and John Sts., New York.

GATES GOES TO CHEYENNE

Former President of Iowa College Accepts Call to a Pastorate.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., Jan. 26.—President George L. Gates, D. D., of Iowa college has accepted a call to the pastorate of the First Congregational church of Cheyenne and has arrived in the city to begin his labors.

REPRESENT THIRTY-SIX CLAIMANTS.

Colonel King Files Bill Involving Title to \$250,000 in Land.

HURON, S. D., Jan. 26.—(Special.)—Colonel John H. King of this city is in Sioux City for the purpose of filing his bill in equity in the United States court involving the validity of title to certain lands in O'Brien county, Iowa. Mr. King represents thirty-six claimants—settlers on lands originally in a grant to the Sioux City & St. Paul railway, which the claimants claim title against the purchasers from the railway company. The lands in question are valued at from \$250,000 to \$300,000 and are separate from those in the corporate limits of Sheldon, which have been in litigation for a number of years and upon which a decision in favor of Mr. King and his clients was rendered by the United States court a few months since.

ATHLETES ARE PREPARING.

YANKTON, S. D., Jan. 26.—(Special.)—The Olympic Athletic association of Yankton college is taking advantage of the weather to get in good work in preparation for the spring meets. The base ball team is already organized, with Robert E. Hartman as captain and E. Beckwith as manager. The team promises to be the best one in years. Yankton college has a number of fine athletes this year and the college itself is giving much encouragement along this line.

McGinnis Gets Labor Vote.

HELENA, Mont., Jan. 26.—Frank gained two more votes today on joint ballot for short-term senator. The labor vote today went to McGinnis. Following is the vote: Mantle (rep.), 28; Frank, 24; McGinnis, 12; Cooper, 8; Conrad, 5; Hoffman, 2.

WOULD NOT ACCEPT AMNESTY

Aguinaldo Declares That He Will Follow Example Set by Washington.

SAYS WAR MAY BE LONG AND TERRIBLE

PEKING, Jan. 26.—United States Minister Conner called upon Prince Ching today. The visit was mainly a social call. Prince Ching expressed regret at the refusal of the ministers to give the Chinese the forbidden city in order that they might prepare for his residence. Prince Ching also stated that he had informed the missionaries that the Chinese government had no objection to their remaining in the country and continuing their work, which was considered beneficial to the country. He considered many of them.

FINDING IN FILIPINO CAPITAL.

Aguinaldo was found in the Filipino capital by Senator Rubio's agent, the identity of whom is kept an inviolate secret, but is known that he is an American. In years gone by he was a high-salaried employee of Russell & Co. of Hong Kong, Manila, Yokohama, Canton, Shanghai, San Francisco and New York. The firm was the oldest American house in the Orient and the richest. It went down in the crash of 1897.

"My letters to Aguinaldo," says Senator Rubio's agent, "were carefully scrutinized by him and his aide-de-camp before I was taken fully into his confidence. But as they were from those whom he knew to be his trusted friends, he received me without restraint or hesitation. I remained there four days and was the recipient of his full confidence and had from him the most unreserved expression of his sentiments and purposes, as well as his ideas concerning the condition of his country and the great struggle now going on there."

"I was astonished at his knowledge of the history of the United States and its great statesmen since the war of the revolution. The subject of amnesty was gone over very thoroughly. I asked him if he would accept amnesty offered by the commission sent out by the United States government. He said:

"No, I will not accept amnesty. I would not trust them. I have not forgotten the professions of friendship and of support given to me by Dewey and Otis and all them, especially Wildman. My army fought with and for them to defeat the Spanish and promises most solemnly given that we were to have independence were made. All these solemn promises have been repudiated by them all. No. Amnesty means slavery and obedience to the will of McKinley."

"How about the people?" I asked. "Do not you believe the condition of your people would be improved if they accepted amnesty now offered?"

"No," replied, "to accept amnesty means shame, infamy, degradation. Personally, it means imprisonment for me. What else am I to expect, and what for my poor people but serfdom? What would their forefathers have said of George Washington had he accepted amnesty from George III? He fought from 1776 to 1782 and all offers of amnesty were very properly treated with scorn. They were right. You ask me what I want. I reply, liberty. The right of the Filipinos to govern themselves—a government of their own choice."

"But," said I, "there are assurances."

"Assurances and promises," he interposed with great warmth, "given only to be disregarded and repudiated. I tell you I will never trust them. Nor will my people. Never! Say to them that the amnesty will not be considered. My people will no longer respect me were I to do so."

"Then it may be war for many years," I said. "You must know that the American government is strong, powerful and rich."

"Unquestionably," he replied, "and it may be a long and terrible struggle for liberty. But, until the Filipino nation shall have a government of its own, this war will go on. I believe that if there were a change of administration we would gain our freedom. We will have a republic patterned mainly after that of the United States. Their original system is admirable, but not as administered now."

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